

Henry L. Hungerbeeler
Director
Missouri Department of Transportation

As director of the Missouri Department of Transportation, Hungerbeeler oversees the work of more than 6,000 employees who plan, build and maintain the state's transportation system. This includes 32,000 miles of highways and the state support of aviation, rail, transit and port systems. Hungerbeeler assumed his position in March 1999.

At the national level, he is a member of the Board of Directors of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, a member of the AASHTO Standing Committee on Administration, chairman of the AASHTO Public Affairs Subcommittee, and a board member of ITS America.

In September 2001, Hungerbeeler was named national chair of the Task Force on Transportation Security for the AASHTO. The task force will review security and emergency-preparedness issues related to bridges, tunnels and other facilities critical to the highway transportation system and national defense. In November 2001, Gov. Bob Holden named him to the Missouri Security Panel, a group that will assess the state's security status and recommend improvements. Hungerbeeler is also a member of the Transportation Research Board's Transportation Panel of the National Academies, Science and Technology for Countering Terrorism. The group will recommend priority areas for scientific and engineering emphasis to help in the fight against terrorism.

He is also a member of the Dean's Engineering Advisory Council at the University of Missouri-Columbia, as well as the State Retirement Advisory Commission and the Missouri Lewis & Clark Bicentennial Commission.

Hungerbeeler joined the department after completing a 30-year Air Force career, retiring with the rank of colonel. In his final assignment, he served in Texas as chief of staff for a military task force combating international drug cartels. He has also served as base commander for Charleston Air Force Base and Andrews Air Force Base, which included security duties for the president of the United States and other heads of state.

He trained and led the security force that protects Air Force One worldwide, as well as conducted and commanded top-secret counter-terrorist operations. Other responsibilities included advising the Joint Chiefs of Staff during the Persian Gulf War, commanding special forces on classified missions, and flying and supervising combat missions in Southeast Asia.

Hungerbeeler graduated from the United States Air Force Academy in 1968 with a bachelor of science degree in engineering management and a minor in economics. He received a master's degree in management from Webster University in 1975.

He graduated in 1989 from the United States Air Force Air War College, with post-graduate work in leadership, management and public administration. He graduated from the United States Army Command and General Staff College in 1981, with post-graduate work in leadership, management, and public administration.

Hungerbeeler was born and raised in Shreveport, La. He and his wife, Anne, have two children and four grandchildren. His hobbies include playing golf and reading.

